

TOWN OF AMHERST

Town Hall P.O. Box 960 Amherst. NH 03031 2 Main Street Tel: 603/673-6041 Fax: 603/673-6794

Dear Fellow Residents of Amherst:

The Official Ballot Form of Voting (SB2) has changed the way that important decisions are made in our Town. Rather than having Town Meeting approve or disapprove warrant articles, voters will now go to the polls on March 8th, to make all decisions within the privacy of the voting booth.

The Selectmen realize that it is crucial for voters to have detailed information about each warrant article. The complete text of the warrant can also be found in the 2004 Town Report, available at Town Hall, the Library, and the Bagel Place the Town's web page www.amherstnh.gov . This Voter's Guide is the result of many people's input about the issues surrounding each article. addition, sample town and zoning ballots have been included in this guide. You may bring these sample ballots to the voting booth with you on the 8th of March.

As you read through the details of this Voter's Guide, please feel free to jot down any questions that you might have. Our Town Administrator, Carl Weber, is available at Town Hall 673-6041 during normal business hours, or you may contact any Selectman or Planning Board Member.

The polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Souhegan High School on Tuesday, March 8th.

The Board of Selectmen,

Robert Heaton, Chairman Jay Dinkel, Vice Chairman Bruce Bowler George Infanti Marilyn Peterman

Ways & Means Committee

The Amherst Town Ways and Means Committee would like to express its thanks for the support the selectmen, the town administrator, selectmen's assistant, and all of the town department heads have given the Ways and Means Committee during this budget cycle.

The Ways and Means Committee continues to support the open environment that the Selectmen have taken towards development of the operating budget and other warrant articles. This approach involves the Town Ways and Means Committee in all aspects of budget development. The committee has been an integral part of the process from the time the budget target was established in September 2004 through the period when budget and warrants were voted on by the Selectmen in January 2005. The committee had ample access to the Selectmen, Town **Administrator and Town Department Heads** throughout this process.

The Ways and Means Committee applauds the efforts of the town administrator and selectmen in finding innovative approaches to improving the efficiency of the town government. The Board of Selectmen has met the challenge of providing consistent or improved service to the citizens of Amherst, a fair and equitable wage to its employees, while holding tax increases to levels that are consistent with the cost of living increases.

Submitted by:

John Maynard, Chairman Shannon Chandley Rebecca Herlihy Linda Kaiser Ted Krantz John Lobsitz Jane McOsker